

MRS. ADONIA HUARD.

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JANUARY 21, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. BLACK, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 1790.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1790) granting a pension to the widow of Hypolite Huard, have considered the same and report as follows:

The records of the War Department show that the deceased soldier enlisted May 15, 1846, for the war with Mexico, in Captain Mauberret's battalion of Louisiana Light Artillery, and that he was honorably discharged July 27, 1846.

The soldier's claim for a pension in this case was rejected by the Pension Office on the ground that said "Hypolite Huard did not serve sixty days in Mexico, or on the coast or frontier thereof, or en route thereto," in order to bring him within the terms of the act of January 29, 1887.

The evidence shows that said Huard served as a soldier in said battalion for over sixty days, and also that he was not in Mexico or on the coast or frontier thereof. The question is, Was he "en route thereto?"

It is claimed in evidence in behalf of said soldier that immediately after enlistment he went into camp on the Place d'Armes (now Jackson Square), drilled, mounted guard on the guns, and performed actual service until discharged—considerably over sixty days; that they were marched to the United States barracks below the city for the purpose of being sent to Mexico, but owing to the large number of troops there the transports were unable to carry them all, and said soldier's company was left behind; that neither he nor any other members of the legion ever would have volunteered if their destination had not been the frontier, for the purpose of reenforcing General Taylor; that for want of seagoing transports their departure was delayed greatly against their will; that they were only conveyed to Fort Jackson because the river steamboats were insufficient to cross the Gulf to Brazos St. Iago, and that there was no necessity to garrison Fort Jackson, the same being in no danger of attack, and the legion only having been placed there temporarily for practice and convenience until further shipment could forward them to their destination; and that in going to and while at Fort Jackson, some 70 miles below New Orleans and near the mouth of the Mississippi River, they were "en route to Mexico," according to the intent and meaning of the act of Congress of January 29, 1887.

The passage of the bill is recommended with the following amendments:

Change the title so as to read "A bill granting a pension to Mrs. Adonia Huard."

In line 5 change the name "Mrs. Hypolite Huard" to "Mrs. Adonia Huard."

The widow's post-office address is No. 917 North Villere street, New Orleans, La. She was married to the soldier (who died October 9, 1895) on the 4th of November, 1854. She is without property and depends upon her children for support.